Newsletter of the North American Mycological Association

THE MYCOPHILE

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McCall, Idaho: Come Early, Stay Late and Play!

NAMA invites you to the 2008 Annual Foray in McCall, Idaho, a mushroom center that our host, Southern Idaho Mycological Association (SIMA), has forayed nearly every year since its founding in 1976—and where NAMA itself forayed that year. This is where Orson and Hope Miller spent their summers while Dr. Miller taught at Virginia Tech and where they retired. They wouldn't have gone to a fungally boring place, now would they? This foray is dedicated to the memory of our friend and teacher, Dr. Orson K. Miller, Jr.

It was at McCall that Orson found, described, and named *Hygrophorus caeruleus*, an eerily beautiful mushroom chosen as our foray logo. One of Orson's students, Dr. Cathy Cripps, will be our Chief Mycologist. She too has spent quality time in this neighborhood, becoming an authority on its fungi.

Forays will range in all directions around McCall in the public lands of the Payette National Forest and in private holdings that have pretty much escaped tourism development and recent logging. Forayers to private sites will have the privilege of inventorying fungi for the first time ever at the special request of the owners.

McCall (elev. 5,000 ft.) is a small town on the southern shore of Payette Lake, a natural lake created by the outwash from an alpine glacier 75,000 years ago. The glacier also gave us beautiful fungi-rich meadows and a good excuse to examine large rocks for striations left when the glacier scraped against the sides of the mountains. At 290 feet the lake is deep enough to house Sharlie, a cousin of the Loch Ness creature seldom photographed but seen (rarely) by children.

Just imagine what fungal treasures await you in the environs of Payette Lake.

In McCall's evolution as an escape for desert-dwelling Idahoans, many churches acquired prime locations for educational centers and summer camps—Episcopalians, Quakers, and Baptists, among others. Surrounding the lake is a glorious mix of conifer forests, those meadows, streams, high-mountain lakes, even sagebrush prairie. Foray headquarters will be Camp Pinewood, a Baptist camp on Payette River.

Pinewood is three blocks from the lake and four from the center of McCall. The town, by the way, has the usual services of civilization—supermarkets, pharmacy, motels, gasoline stations, hospital, restau-

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Saying Goodbye

Reflections on Samuel Ristich

[*This memorial by David Rose is also being printed in the spring issue of the COMA newsletter,* Spores Afield. *It is used here by permission of the author.*]

The death of Dr. Samuel Ristich has left an enormous void in amateur mycology and in the world. Sam was an old-school natural historian fully at home in 21st-century biology, a consummate educator supercharged with the most infectious curiosity, and a sprightly wizard whose knowledge of the world of mushrooms seemed boundless.

Spending any time with Sam was quite simply a life-changing experience. If late in his life he sometimes styled himself "the mushroom guru," he was in reality a guru of generosity, for as much as he loved the fungi and all of nature, he lavished his attention most on people. He never stopped teaching and cultivating the educational instinct in others, and he never stopped writing to his legions of devoted students. His exuberance for the world was so profound and so contagious that the lessons he taught us will continue to thrive in us all, and thus we hope will thrive the spirit of Sam Ristich.

I once asked Sam for a bibliography of his early publications, and he modestly complied with my request with the mild complaint, "You are spending too much valuable time remaking Sam." Yet I was glad I had made that request, for I learned of the breadth of his scientific scholarship apart from mycology, covering the ecology of digging wasps, buried seeds, plant galls, aquatic plants, benthic invertebrates, and predacious mites.

Though to us he was foremost a mycologist, Sam was first an entomologist, having earned his Ph.D. in entomology at Cornell University in 1950. An all-around naturalist, he rediscovered the cahow (a petrel once thought to be extinct) in Bermuda in 1945. As a mycologist he discovered *Amanita ristichii* and *Wynnea sparassoides* as well as the imperfect stage of *Oligoporus rennyi*.

Beyond his mycological discoveries, there are three points of personal philosophy that outshine all else. The first involves education. Sam always insisted that the finest talent of a teacher is to find and cultivate the talent for education in others. Sam made it his personal mission to stimulate the educational impulse wherever he found it.

Second, he always drew attention to not just the science, but to the wonder of nature. If science ever seems dull or clinical, it is due

Continued on page 4

Sam's spore print entitled "Pisquamosus Mastodon" won a Judge's Option prize in the 2007 NAMA photo contest. (See page 8, 9, and 15 for other winners.)

Moving?

Please send your new address, ***two weeks*** before you move, to

Ann Bornstein
NAMA Membership Secretary
61 Devon Court
Watsonville, CA 95076-1160
<Membership@namyco.org>

Otherwise—you may not be getting your newsletter for a while. Each issue, several *Mycophiles* are returned as undeliverable because of no forwarding address on file. NAMA is charged ***seventy cents*** for each returned or forwarded newsletter.

NAMA is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Contributions to support the scientific and educational activities of the Association are always welcome and may be deductible as allowed by law. Gifts of any amount may be made for special occasions, such as birthdays, anniversaries, and for memorials.

Special categories include
Friend of NAMA: $500–900
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Patron: $5000 and up

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Louisville, KY40206-2523
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MushRoaming in Tibet, Two Expeditions for 2008

Logistics will be expedited by High Asia Expeditions. Details at www.MushRoaming.com. Address inquiries to <info@mushroaming.com>.

Tibet is not only endowed with an incomparably rich, ancient, spiritual culture but also has a long tradition of collecting and trading mushrooms. Today, with unprecedented demand for caterpillar fungus (*Cordyceps sinensis*), matsutake and morels, Tibet has the highest fungal income per capita in the world.

Our "mushroaming" tours to Tibet are once-in-a-lifetime fungal, botanical, and cultural experiences in some of the most stunning landscapes on the planet.

Cordyceps Expedition to Kham May 26–June 9

Our goal is to track the elusive caterpillar fungus endemic to the Tibetan Plateau, explore its grassland habitat, meet collectors, and visit fungus markets. We'll also search for morels in the valleys ablaze in spring flowers. In addition to exploring fungi, we will visit Tibet's famous monasteries, sacred sites, and hot springs.

Fungal & Floral Foray in Tibet August 2–19

During the summer, mushroom collection and markets are peaking. We will encounter matsutake, boletes, caesars, chanterelles, ganoderma, gypsies and many other exotic species throughout the tour. We will explore the forests, meadows and mountains of Kongpo, Tibet's extremely biodiverse southeastern region. In addition we will experience sacred sites in Lhasa and beyond.

Daniel Winkler leads the tour, supported by Tibetan guides.

2008 Bryology Seminars, Humboldt Institute

In support of field biologists, modern field naturalists, and students of the natural history sciences, Eagle Hill offers specialty seminars and workshops at different ecological scales for those who are interested in understanding, addressing, and solving complex ecological questions.

Seminar topics range from watershed-level issues and subjects in classical ecology, to highly specialized seminars in advanced biology, taxonomy, and ecological restoration. Eagle Hill has long been recognized as offering hard-to-find seminars and workshops that provide important opportunities for training and meeting others who are likewise dedicated to the natural history sciences.

Eagle Hill field seminars are of special interest because they focus on the natural history of one of North America's most spectacular and pristine natural areas, the coast of eastern Maine from Acadia National Park to Petit Manan National Wildlife Refuge and beyond. Most seminars combine field studies with follow-up lab studies and a review of the literature. Additional information is provided in lectures, slide presentations, and discussions. Seminars are primarily taught for people who already have a reasonable background in a seminar program or in related subjects or who are keenly interested in learning about a new subject. Prior discussions of personal study objectives are welcome.

June 29–July 5
Calicioid Lichens and Fungi: Identification, Ecology, and Role in Assessing Forest Continuity—Steven Selva

July 6–12
Lichenicolous Fungi: North America's Second Sick Lichen Masterclass—David L. Hawksworth

August 3–9
Polypores, Tooth Fungi, and Crust Fungi—Thomas Volk and Sean Westermoreland

August 31–September 6
Mycology for Naturalists: Diversity, Biology, and Ecology of Fungi and Fungal-like Organisms—David Porter

September 28–October 4
Advanced Mycology: Freshwater and Marine Ascomycetes—Ann Shearer

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Descriptions of seminars may be found at www.eaglehill.us/mssemdes.html. Information on lodging options, meals, and costs plus a printable and online application form may be found at www.eaglehill.us/mapinfo.html. Syllabi are available for these and many other fine natural-history training seminars on diverse topics. For more information, please contact the Humboldt Institute, P.O. Box 9, Steuben, ME 04680-0009; other contacts are phone (207) 546-2821; fax (207) 546-3042; e-mail <office@eaglehill.us>. Online general information may be found at www.eaglehill.us.

32nd Annual NEMF Foray—The Samuel Ristich Foray

July 31–August 3

Hosted by the Connecticut Valley Mycological Society at Connecticut College in New London, this small private college, home of the Connecticut Arboretum, sits on a 750-acre site in the southeast corner of the state and overlooks the Thames River and Long Island Sound. Programs, workshops, fun and forays for mycophiles at all levels are planned. Info at www.nemfdata.org or contact Chairman Terry Stoleson at <fungaloony@earthlink.net>.

Continued on page 13

Saying Goodbye, cont. from page 2

to our own diminished sense of wonder, which Sam refueled and recharged again and again. On slime molds, he invariably emphasized the *wonder* of their various stages and the *drama* of their transformation. Of course, wonder depends on close observation, and Sam was the first to proclaim, "We need more astute observers and fewer doctors!"

Finally, Sam promoted "deep stewardship." He believed that we are stewards, not possessors, of this earth, and that our sense of stewardship must be greatly amplified if the earth's species, particularly the human species, are to survive. In this, Sam practiced what he preached.

Sam's everyday observations, witticisms, and news about the fungi are enshrined in his book *Sam's Corner*. Read this book and you will hear his voice. His colorful and expressive language was unparalleled, always serving to instruct as it kept us entertained with mycological marvels. All of science should be so poetic and so vividly presented. I can hear his grainy voice now, explaining how large polypores are "insect condominiums." To a particularly soft *Tyromyces chioneus* Sam gave the zany designation "a No. 2 Charmin."

Sam was always ready to offer compliments and praise. To Ed Bosman he once wrote, "I run on 100 octane seven days a week. Ed Bosman runs on 110 octane nine days a week."

Sam was the stimulus to the founding of at least two mycological clubs: the Connecticut-Westchester Mycological Association (COMA) and the New Jersey Mycological Association (NJMA); of this he boasted, "All I had to do was pump twice!" Sam pumped, and the native talent and enthusiasm gushed forth. Of his many catchy titles in his writings on mushrooms, my favorite one is "Exploded, Fimbriated Caps of *Phlogiotis helvelloides*." Unquestionably, Sam had a genius for clever, humorous expression.

We will miss Sam Ristich deeply because his spirit is engrained in us all. I will never forget the closing of a particularly meaningful letter that he once sent to me; he wrote: "*Ten Hail Calostomas and Love, Sam.*"

◆

Benjamin Woo
1923–2008

"Ben Woo, recipient of NAMA's Award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology in 2002, died a few days ago, leaving a lot of sad people in the Northwest." Those were the words that Dick Sieger used in writing to me with the sad news of Ben's passing. Similar sentiments were expressed by many in the NAMA community and beyond. Both the *Seattle Times* and the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* printed lengthy obituaries commemorating Ben's great life. To read the entire story in the *Seattle PI* go to http://seattlepi.nwsource .com/local/350820_wooobit11.html.
Ben was born in Seattle in 1923, but his family moved back to Shanghai when he was still very young. Ben survived the Japanese invasion of Shanghai in the years leading up to World War II, returning to the USA in 1932 and ultimately settling back in Washington.

Originally trained in Meteorology (and even serving as a meteorologist in the US Army during WWII), Ben later studied engineering at the University of Washington. After leaving an architecture firm that he had founded, he became an engineer for King County and, ultimately, a director of a King County construction and facilities management department. One of his noteworthy accomplishments was designing the King County Fairgrounds. He retired in 1995.

To the mycophilic community, Ben was known as an expert among experts. Never shying from a challenge, Ben committed himself to specializing in the Russulas, one of the most vexing taxa for us all. His friendly attitude and warm smile were infectious, and he always was willing to take the time to share his enthusiasm of mushrooms. In 1964 Ben led the inception of the Puget Sound Mycological Society. Ben was also a prominent leader within NAMA. His ashes will lie in one of his favorite mushroom spots in the Pacific Northwest.

Ben is survived by his second wife, Ruth, whom he married in 1975; daughter Teresa; sons John, Jeffrey, Roger, and Philip; stepdaughters Teresa and Janice; and 11 grandchildren.

Remembrances for Ben can be sent to the Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 Seventh Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98104, or to the Ben Woo Scholarship at the Puget Sound Mycological Society, UW Center for Urban Horticulture, P.O. Box 354115, Seattle, WA 98195.

NAMA Foray in McCall, Idaho,
continued from page 1

rants, golf course, and plenty of paved roads leading to more fungally interesting unpaved forest roads.

NAMA's Board of Trustees will meet at Pinewood's Conference Center on September 3–4, arriving on the 2nd. Alas, the Trustees' moment of private-bathroom luxury will be short-lived, as they will have to vacate the Center on the 5th by 11 AM and bunk elsewhere.

The Foray proper is September 5–7, but plan to register on September 4. Early arrivals can foray (about 2 PM, but time TBA). You'll attend a reception at McCall Golf Course, a mile from camp (transportation provided), and then enjoy dinner at 6:30 PM.

Rooms are distributed among a lodge and smaller retreat buildings. Each bedroom has its own bathroom, queen bed, and a set of either bunk beds or twins. Expect to share rooms, bathrooms and shower rooms. All linens are provided.

Pinewood has 12 well-shaded RV sites with electricity and water

hookups. Ponderosa State Park (near the golf course) also has full-hookup RV sites. Pinewood rules are no smoking inside, no alcohol, and no pets. We will expect some of the (maximum of) 200 attendees to stay at McCall motels.

Pinewood's bicycles, trails, float tubes, horseshoes, frisbee course, climbing wall, and other fun gear will be available at no extra charge. Non-mycological spouses and youngsters can stay busy right in camp, but the treats of the region are your reason to plan an early arrival or a lingering stay after the foray: the boating, the fishing, the hiking, the horse riding, the history, the bird watching, the whitewater rafting.

McCall is about 100 miles north of Boise, the nearest airport. The route to McCall is a gorgeous two-hour drive partly along the banks of Payette River, through the forest, and across some of the most stunning high-mountain valleys in Idaho. More details in the next MYCOPHILE.

New Online Course from Michigan State U: The Biology of the Fungi

Several NAMA members, myself included, have recently completed a comprehensive, well-organized, college-level Internet mycology course entitled "The Biology of the Fungi."

The course was designed last summer by Dr. Frances Trail and other members of the Plant Pathology Department at Michigan State University and was first offered in the Fall 2007 semester. It was taught by Dr. Trail in tandem with the same classroom course she taught at the University. I highly recommend the course to all those who would like to expand their knowledge of fungi to include all the members of the Fungi Kingdom.

The combination of written and illustrated material, including the supplementary articles we downloaded from listed Web sites, references, video lectures, quizzes, and review/evaluations, worked well throughout the course. In all, there were 27 lessons. Lessons #1 and #27 were about the new Phylogenetics of Fungi and the Fungi Tree of Life. In Lesson #1 we downloaded the article on the Fungi Tree of Life from Clark University. The last lesson was a video presentation on Phylogenetics.

The course is organized according to the new Phylogenetic groupings. The first ten lessons are devoted to the True Fungi, the Basidiomycota and the Ascomycota, which include the macro fungi with which you are familiar, as well as the rusts and smuts, the yeasts and other less recognized groups.

Some of the other topics included in the remaining lessons were the Zygomycota, the Chytridiomycota, the Chromista, the Mitospora Fungi, the Trichomycetes, the Lichens, Mycorrhizae, the Protist Fungi, Spore Dispersal, Fungal Toxins, Medical Mycology, Dung Fungi and Mushroom Cultivation.

A basic knowledge of Biology is helpful for the course but not necessary. To supplement the course Dr. Trail recommended several books and articles. I found *The Illustrated Dictionary of Mycology* (Ulloa and Hanlin; St. Paul, MN: APS Press, 2000) very helpful. For up-to-date research, *The Biodiversity of Fungi*, Mueller, Bills, Foster (Elsevier Academic Press, 2004).

The course was offered as a noncredit course. I hope that it will be offered for both college credit and for noncredit next fall. It will be scheduled again during the Fall, 2008, semester, beginning at the end of August.

For information contact Dr. Frances Trail at <trail@ msu.edu>.

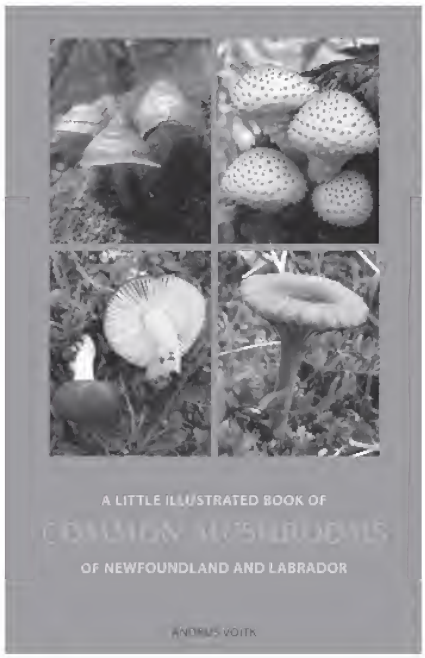
—-Sandy Sheine

Ann has moved! Please note that NAMA's Membership Secretary Ann Bornstein's new address is 61 Devon Court, Watsonville, CA, 95076-1160.

Announcing a new mushroom book:

A Little Illustrated Book of Common Mushrooms of Newfoundland and Labrador

by Andrus Voitk



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Order now for the mushroom season! Get one for the field and one for your bookshelf before they are sold out! Get some for Christmas stocking stuffers!

Mycology Meets History: The NAMA Archive

by David W. Rose

When Harry S. Knighton founded the People-to-People Committee on Fungi in 1959, he had scant idea that his modest effort would flourish to become the North American Mycological Association, the leading amateur mycological organization in the United States. The People-to-People Committee—Mr. Knighton's international network of mushroom aficionados—prompted a vision of a national organization that would serve the mycological community through science, education, and regular communication; and the committee was officially reconstructed as NAMA in 1967. Along the way, the early newsletter, *The Toadstool Picker's News* (a name some purists found objectionable), was transformed into The Mycophile, and the rest is history, as they say.

However, this history is the very pith and gist of the present article, for Harry Knighton also had the foresight to preserve his records, *and* his photographs, *and* his *Toadstool Pickers* from the very first issue in 1960. The collection of materials grew and grew, added to by a succession of executive secretaries, until it arrived *en masse* into the care of Judy Roger. Judy and the NAMA board decided in 2005 to archive these records documenting the association's origins and history, and I am delighted to announce that they are completely organized as an archival collection—the North American Mycological Association Records, now permanently housed at the New York Botanical Garden.

Archives are the prerequisite for written history, and in addition to individual memory, whose reach endures only as long as the human life-span and often less, they are the foundation for our knowledge of the past. Mycology (i.e., taxonomy) itself is inherently historical, and though we don't commonly ponder history in the pursuit of our favorite fungi, the succession of names awarded to countless species of mushrooms attests to the need to trace names back to their sources.

When the NAMA documents arrived on my doorstep in the form of sixteen oversized banker's boxes shrink-wrapped in a shroud of plastic on a forklift pallet, I anticipated history aplenty, and I wasn't disappointed. Archival processing is both a science and an art, and as the archivist selected by NAMA to organize this superb collection, I was soon immersed in the tedium of removing paper clips, staples, rubber bands, and the dirt and detritus that ruins paper. I painstakingly transferred all the documents to special acid-neutral file folders and boxes for maximum protection. This is standard procedure, and not nearly as boring as it sounds, for in the process one also reads, evaluates, and organizes.

Thankfully, the collection had already been fairly well preserved and had never encountered damage by water. Any mycologist reading this knows what *that* means. Many of my best friends are fungi, but, as an archivist, I reserve a cultivated dislike for the enemies of paper: *Cladosporium* and its allies are *not* my friends, and they're not yours either if you're interested in preserving paper documents.

I have spent my most enjoyable hours trawling through archives. My years of work at the New York Botanical Garden archives were especially pleasurable since many collections there were intrinsically mycological. The job of archival processing brought forth a multitude of tantalizing findings: the genealogical correspondence of *Neurospora* expert Bernard Ogilvie Dodge, whose ancestor Rebecca Nourse was persecuted as a witch in the 1692 witchcraft trials in Salem, Massachusetts; the meticulous photographic documentation of the Dictyostelids by Kenneth Raper; the voluminous correspondence of Clark Rogerson; the hand-written Latin inventories of Lewis David von Schweinitz: the list of myco-historical treasures at the Garden seems endless.

When the papers of William Alphonso Murrill emerged from the closet (they were literally excavated from the depths of an herbarium cabinet in the course of moving herbarium collections), I was ecstatic. Though the collection is far from Murrill's entire corpus of work, we now have his notes on meetings with Giacomo Bresadola as well as letters to Luther Burbank and others.

In 2000, I organized the Charles Horton Peck Papers at the New York State Museum in Albany, and it's difficult to convey the palpable, nostalgic thrill of meeting the mycologist Peck through his letters, and discovering hand-written inventories of Vermont boletes from Charles Frost and Peck's own heavily annotated copy Elias Fries's *Hymenomycetes Europaei*.

Much the same is true of the NAMA records: the Knighton correspondence, photographs of the early mushroom forays in Pellston, Michigan, and the supportive work of Orson Miller and Alexander Smith comprise an in-depth and multi-faceted portrait of the expansion of American amateur mycology in the second half of the 20th century and into the 21st.

I organized the NAMA Records into eight archival "series" (component parts) based primarily on subject matter. There are separate series, for example, on NAMA administration, mycological science, annual forays, affiliated organizations, and a complete run of The Mycophile from 1960 to 2005. There is also much more.

The final product of an organized archival collection is a finding guide, the archivist's tool to locate files in the collection. At some point, we may add the NAMA finding guide to our Web site for all to browse; but until the guide is available online I will gladly e-mail a copy to any one who requests it (see below). The finding guide describes each series in detail and provides a container list of every box and file, informing any researcher about the collection's contents.

I am often asked, "Why not digitize the whole collection?" Of

Harry and Elsie Knighton, 1971

course, this may more readily be done by university or government archives, but it requires a budget, equipment, time, and labor. For data and documents that are "born digital" there are a host of additional archival complexities, but the ease of making data quickly available online is an obvious advantage. Perhaps some of the NAMA Records will be digitized and placed online one day, but for now the collection is housed and available for research at the LuEsther T. Mertz Library of the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx, a repository that holds many other fine mycological collections and is therefore a major attraction to researchers and to the public at large.

While the work of processing the NAMA Records is now completed, there may yet be smaller, individual collections of documents, photographs, or films in the possession of former and current NAMA members that could properly be added to the collection. Anyone who wishes to make a contribution of original records relating to the North American Mycological Association may contact me to discuss donating materials to the NAMA Records. The NAMA Records also contains substantial, but incomplete, information on affiliated mycological clubs; and if members of affiliated clubs wish to make donations of club documents, that, too, is worthy of discussion.

On the other hand, local mycological organizations may wish to establish their own archives. The salient point here is that records that document an organization's activities are an asset to the organization and an important record of its accomplishments. Such records are worthy of preservation. Records that are misplaced, dispersed, destroyed, or rendered worthless by damage from water, mold, or infestation mean one thing only: HISTORY IS LOST. The most cogent argument I can make in favor of preservation is to point out that in the case of the NAMA records, there is, for example, a file of documents on *every* annual foray complete with programs, board agendas and meeting minutes, mushroom collection lists, participant lists, and photographs; and this detailed abundance is a testament to an organization that takes science, history, and its educational mission very seriously. The foray example is but one of many: the Knighton Award, the work of the toxicology committee, and many unusual pieces of mycological literature are evidenced in this archival collection. The NAMA Records will prove to be an invaluable resource for mycologists and historians for years to come.

The moral about "history lost" bears repeating, in an anecdote that should have special resonance for mycologists. One huge collection that I processed in my archival work at the New York Botanical Garden was the William Jacob Robbins Papers. Robbins was a plant physiologist and Director of the Garden from 1938 to 1958, and though he is scarcely remembered for his mycology, he conducted a lengthy series of chemical assays of many species of fungi in the 1950s in the attempt to determine potential sources of antibiotics. Most of this research came to naught, but his laboratory notebooks for this project were extensive, and I organized and catalogued them all. All his notebooks were clearly labeled by genus or by species: *Poria*, *Morchella*, *Clitocybe illudens*, etc. Most were in good condition; some were in bad shape. The final lab notebook in the series was labeled "Various Molds," and it had been damaged, unfortunately: completely covered by—you guessed it—various molds.

[*To discuss further contributions of original records to the NAMA archive, to discuss organizing archival collections of local mycology clubs, or to request a finding guide to the NAMA Records, please contact David Rose at tomashunders@aol.com.*]

Alexander H. Smith and Harold H. Burdsall, Jr., at the first Smith Foray, 1976

2007 Digital Photo ContestWinners

A

Pictorial Open

First Place:
Hygrocybe psittacina, by Noah M. Siegel ..... A
Second Place:
Microglossum rufum, by David C. Work ..... B
Third Place:
Mutinus caninus, by Charles R. Fonaas .....page 15

Honorable Mention:
Clavaria purpuria, by Michael J. Quaintance
Leucopholiota decorosa, by Noah M. Siegel
Neolecta irregularis, by David C. Work
Omphalotus illudens, by Jacqueline Beaudry Dion
Suillus pictus, by David C. Work
Xeromphalina campanella, by David C. Work

Documentary Open

First Place:
Hemitrichia serpula, by David C. Work C
Second Place:
Chroogomphus vinicolor, Noah M. Siegel ..... D
Entoloma abortivum, by Charles R. Fonaas ..... E
Third Place:
Tremella foliacea, by David C. Work .....F

Honorable Mention:
Tricholoma magnivelare, by Noah M. Siegel
Cortinarius semisanguineus, by Noah M. Siegel
Agaricus sp., by Charles R. Fonaas

E

J

Judges' Option

Ascobolus asci and spores,
by John W. Dawson ..... page 15
"Alien Emerging" (*Mutinus caninus*),
by Charles R. Fonaas ..... page 15
"Identical Twins" (*Amanita muscaria*),
by Michael J. Quantance ..... G
Cortinarius semisanguineus dyed wool,
by Noah M. Siegel ..... H
Cyathus olla peridioles,
by John W. Dawson ..... J
"Pisquamosus Mastodon" Spore Print,
by Sam S. Ristich ..... page 2

B

C

H

G

F

D

See pages 2 and 15 for more winning photos.

Rules and entry blank for the 2008 NAMA Photo Contest appear on pages 14 and 15.

New NAMA DVD Programs for 2008

Dr. Michael Beug, a member of the NAMA Education Committee, has completed 13 new mushroom identification DVDs and is nearing completion of three more for a total of 16 new programs.

Starting in Spring 2008 these programs will be available on loan *only* to NAMA members and affiliated clubs, through the NAMA Web site: www.namyco.org. These programs are the first step in creating replacements for the existing NAMA slide-tape programs. Each DVD will contain a PowerPoint® presentation with embedded narration. The programs are designed so that they can be customized by individual clubs and the DVDs include Instructions for deleting slides or adding additional slides of special interest.

The images in the programs draw heavily on the slide collection of Dr. Beug, augmented by the beautiful collections of Kit Scates Barnhart, Peter Katsaros, and Eleanor Yarrow as well as numerous slides from other NAMA members including Harley Barnhart, Emily Johnson, John MacGregor, Chuck Barrows, Bill Blanton, and Bill Roody. In 2009, Dr. Beug plans to complete additional new programs covering other orders in the Basidiomycetes and the Ascomycetes.

The new programs fall into three series of PowerPoint programs. The first series, in nine parts, emphasizes the Agaricales of North America. Dr. Beug features the best edible species and the most poisonous species in each group, stressing the distinctive characteristics of each species. Spectacular species as well as species with fascinating ecological roles are also included.

The second series, in four parts, focuses on how to recognize the major genera of gilled mushrooms. The idea behind the second series is that once you can recognize the major genera on sight, you will be more successful at keying out the identity of new species.

The third series which will be complete by late spring of 2009 will focus on the major genera of non-gilled mushrooms. These programs include multiple illustrations of common mushrooms found in most field guides and many species rarely illustrated elsewhere.

A brief description of each program follows:

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part I: *Pluteaceae* and *Pleurotaceae* (50 min). This program begins with *Amanita,* covers the most widespread members of the genus and some interesting regional endemics, and also includes *Limacella, Volvariella, Pluteus,* and *Pleurotus* in the broad sense.

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part II: *Agaricaceae* (50 min). This program starts with *Agaricus* and then covers *Lepiota* and *Coprinus* in the broad sense.

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part III: *Tricholomataceae* Part 1 (60 min). The Tricholomataceae is such a large family that to cover it in any depth, two programs were needed. This program focuses on the large genera in the family, especially *Tricholoma* and *Clitocybe.* Additional included genera are *Catathelasma, Tricholomopsis, Lyophyllum, Calocybe, Leucopaxillus, Panellus,* and *Cystoderma.* Some white-spored mushrooms from other families and other orders, including *Omphalotus* and *Hygrophoropsis,* are also covered.

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part IV: *Tricholomataceae* Part 2 (58 min). This program includes *Mycena, Omphalina, Hygrophorus* and *Collybia,* all in the broad sense. In each case, the central genus and most of the new genera that have been created based on recent DNA work are discussed. Mushroom ecology is also covered.

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part V: *Puffballs, Clubs, and Corals* (60 min). This program includes species both in the Agaricales as well as species that have traditionally been included in these groupings but are now considered parts of other orders. Thus traditional puffballs, large and small, are discussed along with desert stalked puffballs. *Scleroderma* species, bird's nest fungi and *Ramaria* species are included with *Clavaria* species and other club and coral mushrooms.

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part VI: *Cortinariaceae* (57 min). This program covers many species of *Cortinarius* and *Inocybe* not covered elsewhere. It also includes *Gymnopilus, Phaeocollybia, Crepidotus, Galerina,* and some other genera in the Cortinariaceae.

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part VII: *Strophariaceae* and *Psathyrellaceae* (45 min). This program covers *Stropharia, Psilocybe, Hypholoma, Kuehneromyces, Pholiota, Psathyrella,* and some other distinctive genera.

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part VIII: *Entolomataceae, Marasmiaceae, Schizophyllaceae* and *Hydnangiaceae* (46 min). This program covers *Entoloma* and its segregate genera, *Schizophyllum, Laccaria, Armillaria, Marasmius, Rhodocollybia,* and some other distinctive genera.

Widespread Agaricales of North America Part IX: *Bolbitiaceae, Gomphidiaceae, Paxillaceae* and *Hygrophoropsidaceae* (34 min). To complete the coverage of the gilled mushrooms, this program covers the Bolbitiaceae and other orders of Basidiomycetes not discussed previously. The genera included are *Agrocybe, Bolbitius, Conocybe, Hebeloma* and *Panaeolus* from the Bolbitiaceae. Other genera included are *Gomphidius* and *Chroogomphus* from the Gomphidiaceae. This program concludes with *Phylloporus, Paxillus, Tapinella,* and *Hygrophoropsis.*

Guide to the Major Genera of Gilled Mushrooms: The Light Spored Mushrooms I: *Pluteaceae, Pleurotaceae, Entolomataceae, Marasmiaceae, and Others* (52.5

Continued on page 13

The North American Mycological Association

2008 Orson K. Miller Jr. Memorial Foray

September 4–7, 2008 • McCall, Idaho

(Trustees: Sept. 2–3)

Hosted by the Southern Idaho Mycological Association

Susan M. Stacy, Registration • 1718 N. 17th Street, Boise, ID 83702 • Tel. (208) 344-7371 • <sstacy@spro.net>

REGISTRATION

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Names and club affiliation for name tags: _____

Assign roommate: ❑ Male ❑ Female I want to share a room with _____

Lodging at Camp Pinewood consists of cabins and lodges with multiple bunks per room, as well as full hook-up campsites. Go to www.simykos.org for more information about the conference.

REGISTRATION

Full registration with housing at Camp Pinewood

Thurs. dinner through Sun. breakfast ..... #_____ @ $250 each $_____
Includes 3 nights lodging – Thurs. arrival, Sun. departure

Top bunk discount ..... # _____ @ –$10 each $ (_____)

Full registration with RV site at Camp Pinewood

Forayer option:
Thurs. through Sat. night, meals as above, for one ..... #__1__ @ $250 $_____
Second and each other person at site (all meals) ..... #_____ @ $165 each $_____

Trustee addition, if using RV site at Pinewood
Lodging Sept. 2 and 3, Tues. dinner–Thurs. lunch ..... #__1__ @ $ 80 $_____
Each add'l person at site Tues. dinner–Thurs. lunch ..... #_____ @ $ 40 each $_____

Registration for campers and commuters

Housing on your own (hotels, campgrounds, etc.)—see www.simyoks. org for ideas.

Full meals option: Thurs. dinner through Sun. breakfast ..... #_____ @ $165 $_____

Partial meals option: Thurs., Fri., Sat. dinner; Fri., Sat. lunch ..... #_____ @ $140 $_____
(no breakfasts)

NAMA membership (required if not current) ..... #_____ @ $ 35 $_____

Late fee (after June 30) ..... #_____ @ $ 30 each $_____

Mycology student discount: Subtract ..... #_____ @ –$100 each $ (_____)

University: _____

Professor: _____

NAMA Trustee meeting additions

Meals: Tues. dinner through Thurs. lunch ..... #_____ @ $ 40 each $_____

Lodging: If not sleeping in Retreat Center room, add ..... #_____ @ $ 30 each $_____

Lodging: If sleeping at Retreat Center (Tues./Wed./Thur. night **ONLY***)
then making private arrangements ..... #_____ @ $ 90 each $_____

**Trustees must relocate from Retreat Center by 11 a.m. Friday for Friday–Saturday night.* Retreat Center rooms have private baths, each with one queen bed plus bunks or twin beds. Maximum for each room is 5. List no more than 4 roommate preferences: _____

_____

Please make check out to SIMA. TOTAL ..... **$_____**

Do you have any dietary restrictions? _____

VOLUNTEER OPTIONS

If you can help in any way, please let us know. The volunteer time of our members is what continues to make NAMA forays such a success and great time for everyone. The coordinator will contact you with details prior to the foray.

Display & identification area: ❑ Set up ❑ Assist identification ❑ Clean up

Mycophagy: ❑ Set up ❑ Preparation ❑ Clean up ❑ Bring mushrooms

Presentations: ❑ Assist with audio-visual set-up

❑ I have CDL with passenger endorsement and am willing to drive a bus to forays.

❑ I am willing to drive a van to forays.

NAMA/SIMA must have a signed release for all adults attending the foray. Please sign below.

LIABILITY RELEASE AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE

I understand that there is some risk in participating in a mushroom foray and conference: all those risks one assumes by being away from home, risks associated with moving about in fields and woods, risks involved in eating wild mushrooms, risks of losing personal property by theft or misplacement, and all other expected and unexpected risks. In registering for or attending this foray, I agree to assume total responsibility during this event for my own safety and well-being, and that of any minor children under my care, and for the protection of my and their personal property. I release the North American Mycological Association (NAMA), its trustees, officers, employees, contractors, and all other persons assisting in the planning and presentation of this event from liability for any sickness, injury, or loss I or any minor children under my care may suffer during this event or as a result of attending and participating. I further promise not to file a lawsuit or make a claim against any of the persons listed above, even if they negligently cause me or my minor children injury or loss. Finally, I agree to hold NAMA harmless from any liability it may incur as a result of any damages to Hinton Training Center property that I may cause. This release and promise are part of the consideration I give in order to attend this event. I understand that it affects my legal rights. I intend it to apply not only to me but to anyone who may have the right to make a claim on my behalf.

Signature 1: _____ Date: _____

Print Name 1: _____

Signature 2: _____ Date: _____

Print Name 2: _____

New DVDs, cont from page 10

min). This program covers the best edible and most poisonous mushrooms from roughly half of the major genera of light-spored mushrooms.

Guide to the Major Genera of Gilled Mushrooms: The Light Spored Mushrooms II: *Tricholomataceae, Hygrophoraceae* and *Russulaceae* (52.5 min). This program completes the coverage of the major genera of light spored mushrooms not included in Part I.

Guide to the Major Genera of Gilled Mushrooms: The Dark Spored Mushrooms I: *Agaricaceae* (Dark Spored Members), *Bolbitiaceae* and *Cortinariaceae* 1 (52 min). This program covers *Agaricus, Coprinus* in the broad sense, *Agrocybe, Bolbitius, Conocybe, Panaeolus, Hebeloma, Cortinarius,* and *Inocybe.*

Guide to the Major Genera of Gilled Mushrooms: The Dark Spored Mushrooms II: *Cortinariaceae 2, Strophariaceae, Psathyrellaceae* and Some Gilled Boletales (51.5 min). This program completes the coverage of major genera of dark spored mushrooms including *Gymnopilus, Phaeocollybia, Crepidotus, Galerina, Pholiota, Stropharia, Psilocybe, Hypholoma, Psathyrella, Gomphidius, Chroogomphus, Paxillus,* and some other distinctive genera of dark spored mushrooms.

Guide to the Major Genera of Ascomycete Mushrooms (50–60 min.) available May or June 2009. This program is an introductory overview of the fleshy ascomycetes that will include widespread species plus distinctive regional mushrooms. It will focus on the Pezizales that includes morels, helvellas, pezizas, and true truffles.

Guide to Boletes and Polypores (50–60 min.), available May or June 2009. This program will be an introductory overview of distinctive and widespread Boletes and Polypores.

Guide to Chanterelles, Teeth Fungi, Jelly Fungi and Slime Molds (50–60 min.), available May or June 2009. This is an introductory catch-all program of distinctive and widespread non-gilled mushrooms with some elements of significant interest to mycophagists and other elements for the pure naturalist in all of us.

Forays and Announcements, cont. from page 3

2008 Mexican Mushroom Tours
August 17–24

After considerable planning and input from others, including many previous participants, we've chosen as our base location the colorful central state of Michoacan. This rich, green, region has a wide biodiversity along with history, culture, and crafts ideal for a foray travel adventure.

We'll meet in the state's elegant capital city, Morelia (the name itself sounds promising!). Morelia has good access from both the Mexico City and Toluca airports. Speaking of flying, eastern Michoacan is also the special location that millions of Monarch butterflies migrate to each year.

The region is equally famed for its Day of the Dead spectacles on the island of Janitzio, its copper artisans at Santa Clara del Cobre, and the archeological site (and straw-weaving magic) at Tzintzuntzan.

The wood carvers at Patzcuaro, guitar makers in Paracho, and unique ceramics creators in Capula are but a few of the other colorful attractions, not to mention the 50-year-old Paricutin volcano near Uruapan that burst out of a field to spew lava all over a nearby village, appropriately sparing the town church.

What about the mushrooms? Michoacan is full of forests and lakes harboring an abundance of different fungi. Leading our small-ish group—maximum 20—will be a top mycologist, the biligual, friendly and very knowledgeable Dr. Arturo Estrada, who has headed many of our forays since 2000.

Tour fees will again be under US $2,000 p/p dbl. (All-inclusive except for travel to and from Mexico.) Final pricing and itinerary details will be confirmed soon. See www.mexmush.com for developing information.

Meanwhile, earlier MMT forayers have already booked more than half the available Michoacan tour spots, so others interested may want to contact us soon to hold a tentative reservation. Contact Mexican Mushroom Tours, Apdo #73, Tlaxcala, Tlax., 90000 Mexico; Tel/Fax (from El Norte): 011-52 (246) 461-8829. Web site: www.mexmush.com; e-mail <mexmush@yahoo.com>.

Telluride Mushroom Festival
August 20–24

Join Paul Stamets, world-renowned experts, and other mycologists for this fascinating fungal foray! You are invited to sunny Telluride, CO, high in the San Juan Mountains, for this annual celebration of all things fungi.

Learn how to identify gourmet treats and how to prepare them. Hike the beautiful mountains on wild-crafting forays. Listen to experts reveal the latest discoveries of the Fungal Kingdom. Not animal, not plant—what secrets does this Kingdom hold? Can mushrooms save the Earth? Are mushrooms conscious? What unknown properties do fungi possess?

Healing, nutritious, magical, mushrooms have affected humanity since prehistory. Come to Telluride in August and discover how they may change the future!

For information, visit www.tellurideinstitute.org.

2008 NAMA Photo Contest Rules

Eligibility: The contest is open to all paid-up NAMA members. Non-members may enter if a separate check for 2008 dues ($35.00) is enclosed with the entry. Slides that have previously won (including Honorable Mention) are not eligible.

Closing date: All entries must be received by the Contest Director(s) on or before ***June 15, 2008.*** Allow at least one week for mailing.

Subject material: For Pictorial and Documentary, organisms from the Myxomycota (slime molds) and the classes Basidiomycetes and Ascomycetes of the Eumycota ("true fungi") are eligible. For Judge's Option, nearly anything goes as long as the theme relates to fungi and fungi are a key element of the photograph.

Entry divisions:

• ***Pictorial:*** Single photos that illustrate the beauty and variety of fungi in form and color. The objective is a photo suitable for display or illustration in a fine book. Judging criteria include consideration of both technical (focus, depth of field, exposure, lighting, color, absence of distracting elements) and artistic (composition, color, background, lighting) aspects. *Limited to 6 entries.*

• ***Documentary:*** For single photographs especially suited as illustrations in a field guide or monograph or for use in a lecture. Emphasis is placed on portrayal of key morphological characteristics such that the usefulness of the image as an identification aid is maximized. Subjects may be shot in the field, laboratory, or studio, and the photographer has complete freedom to process, manipulate, or orient the specimen in any desired manner to achieve the goal. Close-ups of single features and photomicrographs are acceptable. Judging criteria will be the same as in the Pictorial category, but they will be of secondary importance to the overall mycological utility of the photo. Accurate identification of the subject will be a consideration. *Limited to 6 entries.*

• ***Judge's Option:*** For single photos or series which do not fit into the Pictorial or Documentary divisions. Examples include time-lapse series, ecological relationships of fungi (e.g. fairy rings), fungi with animals, people enjoying fungi. *Limited to 3 entries.*

Awards: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes will be awarded in Pictorial and Documentary in both Limited and Open classifications. Additional Honorable Mention awards are given at the judges' discretion up to a maximum of 15% of the entries in that particular category. There will be no ranking in the Judges' Option division, and up to 20% of the entries may be selected. Prizes such as film, subscriptions, books, certificates, etc. are awarded, depending on the contest director's resourcefulness and the generosity of donors.

Format: Send color transparencies of any size that will fit into two-inch-square plastic or cardboard mounts that function in a standard 80-slide carousel. Glass mounts will not be accepted. Slides may be cropped, retouched or otherwise reprocessed.

Marking, listing, and submitting slides: Mark each slide with a projection spot at the lower left corner of the mount when viewed right-side up out of the projector. The same side should include the entrant's initials, division initials, and slide number (e.g. OQ K-P-1), Use 1a, 1b, 1c, etc. for sequences. Fill out and submit the Entry Form along with your slides. Send by first-class mail. Acknowledgment of receipt will be sent to you. If possible, arrange your packaging so that it can be reused for returning your slides.

Marking, listing, and submitting digitals: What information should you include in the digital photo's filename? If your computer program will permit, we like to have at least these three things in your filenames: D (for Documentary), JO (for Judges Option) or P (for Pictorial), and the photographer's initials in three spaces, followed by the Genus and species of the fungus or myxomycete if you can identify it, and your title for the photo (unless it is the same as the previous), and of course the file extension. If you have enough space for your full name, the entry number, etc., or you wish to include other info, that is a bonus but not required.

Entry Fee: Your $4 fee allows you to enter up to 15 images in either the film or digital contest. Write the titles of your photos on the lines in the entry form.

Reproduction: Entry in the contest constitutes the consent of the photographer to allow NAMA to reproduce copies of each winning slide or digital (including Honorable Mention, etc.) for circulation by the Education Committee among the membership and affiliated societies. NAMA also reserves the right to post images of the winning slides or digitals on the NAMA web pages and in The Mycophile. All copyrights remain with the photographer.

Questions? Contact NAMA Photo Committee Chair: John Plischke III, 411 Center Ave., Greensburg, PA 15601; (724) 832-0271; <fungi01@aol.com>

2008 NAMA Photo Contest Entry Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Classification (for 35mm slide contest): _____ Open [ ]

Your $4 fee allows you to enter up to 15 images in either the film or the digital contest. Please enter the titles of your photos (or digital filenames) on the lines below. Use 2 entry forms if you enter both the digital and the film contests.

D	1	
D	2	
D	3	
D	4	
D	5	
D	6	
J	7	
J	8	
J	9	
P	10	
P	11	
P	12	
P	13	
P	14	
P	15	

Entry Fees Enclosed:

❑ $4.00 for 35mm Slide Contest ❑ $4.00 for Digital Contest

Digital images must be mailed on a CD or DVD and will not be returned. Slides will be duplicated, then returned. For additional Photo Contest information, see http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/NAMA_Mushroom_Photography.

Mail 35mm slides, entry forms, and entry fees (check payable to NAMA) to:

John Plischke III – **Digital**
201 Culbertson Ave
Greensburg PA 15601
<fungi01@aol.com>

Noah Siegel – **Slides**
25 Prospect Hill Road
Royalston, MA 01368
<nsiegel1@yahoo.com>

All entries must be received by June 15, 2008.

2007 Digital Photo Winners

See pages 2, 8, and 9.

"Alien Emerging" (Mutinus caninus), *by Charles R. Fonaas* (see page 8)

Mutinus caninus, *by Charles R. Fonaas (see page 8)*

Ascobolus asci *and spores, by John W. Dawson (see page 8)*

North American Mycological Association
61 Devon Court
Watsonville, CA 95076-1160

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Newsletter of the North American Mycological Association
THE MYCOPHILE

Mushroom of the Month

It's that time of the year again . . . finally. Morchella *photo courtesy of Andrus Voitk.*